



HF Happenings

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the week of 5 September 2016

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp.

Results of the SARL HF Phone, Digital and CW Contests

Following an enquiry and some spot checks, the Contest Committee decided to do a check on all the logs submitted for the three HF Contest. The Committee found an error in a formula in the Excel log sheet for the SARL HF Digital Contest and has thus corrected the provisional results as published in HF Happenings 719. The Committee also found errors in some of the HF Phone logs – DX claimed instead of 9 – the formula reads a number and not text. Errors were found in some of the ADIF logs as well.

The Committee apologises for the incorrect results published in HF Happenings as well as on SARL News.

Results of the SARL HF Phone Contest

The Contest Committee received 15 logs for the SARL HF Phone Contest.

- 1st Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 200 points
- 2nd Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, 128 points
- 3rd Theo Bresler ZS6TVB, and Mitchell Mynhardt, ZS6YH, 120 points each
- 5th Deon Fraser, ZS5DCF, 119 points
- 6th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 107 points
- 7th Woody Collett, ZS3WL, 101 points
- 8th Heather Holland, ZS5YH, and Max Bauckley, ZS6MAX, 80 points each
- 10th Pierre Holtzhausen, ZS6PJH, 67 points
- 11th Garth Wheeler, ZS5GMW, 52 points
- 12th Stephan van Jaarsveld, ZS6SVJ, 49 points
- 13th Pam Momberg, ZS6APT, 46 points
- 14th Nic van Duffelen, ZR6AEZ, 34 points
- 15th Pieter Jacobs, V51PJ, 31 points

Highest points on a single band - 40 m

- 1st Deon Fraser, ZS5DCF, 119 points
- 2nd Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 117 points
- 3rd Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 107 points

Club Competition

- 1st Bloemfontein ARC, 200 points
- 2nd Pretoria ARC, 187 points
- 3rd East Rand Branch, 120 points
- 4th Port Elizabeth ARS, 107 points
- 5th Centurion ARC, 95 points
- 6th Hibiscus Coast ARC and Sandringham Scout Group, 80 points each
- 8th Highway ARC, 52 points
- 9th West Rand ARC, 34 points

Results of the SARL HF Digital Contest

The Contest Committee received six logs for the SARL HF Digital Contest held on Sunday 21 August 2016. Participants should remember that this is two contests in one – RTTY and PSK.



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- 1st Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 106 points
- 2nd Paul Greeff, ZS6IO, 54 points
- 3rd Mitchell Mynhardt, ZS6YH, 52 points
- 4th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 44 points
- 5th Pieter Jacobs, V51PJ, 34 points
- 6th Dennis Green, ZS4BS, 20 points

Highest points on a single band - 40 m

- 1st Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 70 points
- 2nd Paul Greeff, ZS6IO, 54 points
- 3rd Mitchell Mynhardt, ZS6YH 48 points

Club Competition

- 1st Bloemfontein ARC, 126 points
- 2nd Magalies ARC, 54 points
- 3rd East Rand Branch, 2 points
- 4th Port Elizabeth ARS, 44 points

Results of the SARL HF CW Contest

The Contest Committee received 13 logs for the SARL HF CW Contest.

- 1st Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, 116 points
- 2nd West Rand ARC, ZS6WR (operated by Joop, ZS6JP), 108 points
- 3rd John Kramer, ZS5J, 106 points
- 4th Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, and Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 86 points each
- 6th Charles le Roux, ZS1CF, and Barrie Brokensha, ZS6AJY, 74 points each
- 8th Stephan van Jaarsveld, ZS6SVJ, 64 points
- 9th Chris Burger, ZS6EZ, 56 points
- 10th Daniel Rabe, ZS1DY, 48 points
- 11th Bruce Rowan, ZS6BK, 34 points
- 12th Pam Momberg, ZS6APT, 32 points
- 13th Chris Gossars, ZS1CDG, 20 points

Highest points on a single band - 40 m

- 1st Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, 60 points
- 2nd Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 58 points
- 3rd Chris Burger, ZS6EZ, 56 points

Club Competition

- 1st Overberg ARC, 116 points
- 2nd West Rand ARC 108 points
- 3rd Zululand ARC, 106 points
- 4th Centurion ARC, 96 points
- 5th Bloemfontein ARC, 86 points

Combined Results of the SARL HF Phone, Digital and CW Contests

- 1st Jan Botha, 392 points

September

2 and 3 – Tekkiefees, Vereeniging

3 – West Rand Flea Market

10 and 11 – SARL National Field Day

10 – Old Mutual Mont-Aux-Sources Challenge, Royal Natal National Park; the Beast Challenge, Muldersdrift

11 – SARL Youth Net

15 – October RAE closing date

16 – World Ozone Day

16 to 18 – Darling Wildflower Festival

17 and 18 – SARL VHF/UHF Contest; All Africa DX Contest

22 - Spring Equinox

22 to 25 – Hermanus Flower Festival; National Sheep-dog Trails, Dullstroom

23 to 25 - Gauteng Getaway Show

24 – National Braai Day and Heritage Day

24 and 25 - CQ WW RTTY Contest; Franschhoek Uncorked Festival

24 Sept to 2 Oct – Magoebaskloof and Haenertsburg Spring Festival

26 – Closing date for October Radio ZS

27 – World Tourism Day

29 Sept to 3 Oct – White Mountain Music Festival, Estcourt, Natal

29 Sept to 2 Oct – Madeliefie Makietie, Vredendal

30 – All schools close

30 Sept to 2 Oct – Hermanus Whale Festival

October

1 – Spring QRP Contest

4 – World habitat Day

6 – SARL 80 m QSO Party

8 and 9 – AWA Valve QSO Party

9 - SARL Youth Net

6 to 9 - Superblast Rocking the Daisies Music and Lifestyle Festival, Darling

10 – All schools open

12 – Yom Kippur

20 – Radio Amateur Examination; National Marine Day

21 to 23 – Jamboree on the Air

22 – CQ Hou Koers

29 and 30 – CQ WW DX SSB Contest

2nd Mitchel Mynhardt, ZS6YH, 258 points
 3rd Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, 214 points
 4th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 151 points
 5th Theo Bresler, ZS6TVB, 120 points
 6th Deon Fraser, ZS5DCF, 119 points
 7th Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, 116 points
 8th Stephan van Jaarsveld, ZS6SVJ, 113 points
 9th West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 108 points
 10th John Kramer, ZS5J, 106 points
 11th Woody Collett, ZS3WL, 101 points
 12th Max Bauckley, ZS6MAX, and Heather Holland, ZS5YH, 80 points each
 14th Pam Momberg, ZS6APT, 8 points
 15th Charles le Roux, ZS1CF, and Barrie Brokensha, ZS6AJY, 74 points each
 17th Pierre Holtzhausen, ZS6PJH, 67 points
 18th Pieter Jacobs, V51PJ, 65 points
 19th Chris Burger, ZS6EZ, 65 points
 20th Paul Greeff, ZS6IO, 54 points
 21st Garth Wheler, ZS5GMW, 52 points
 22nd Daniel Rabe, ZS1DY, 48 points
 23rd Bruce Rowan, ZS6BK, and Nic van Duffelen, ZR6AEZ, 34 points each
 25th Chris Gossars, ZS1CDG, and Dennis Green, ZS4BS, 20 points each

Club Competition

1st Bloemfontein ARC, 412 points
 2nd Centurion ARC, 191 points
 3rd Pretoria ARC, 187 points
 4th East Rand Branch, 172 points
 5th Port Elizabeth ARS, 151 points
 6th West Rand ARC, 142 points
 7th Overberg ARC, 116 points
 8th Zululand ARC, 106 points
 9th Hibiscus Coast ARC and the Sandringham Scout Group, 80 points each
 11th Magalies ARC, 54 points
 12th Highway ARC, 52 points

Youngsters on the Air – Austria 2016

This eight-minute video is a nice summary of the recent YOTA Camp 2016 event in Austria <https://vimeo.com/177457557>. English captions are available through a setting on the web page. Conference attendees were provided with WSPR hardware, and were recently invited to participate in a post-conference YOTA 2016 WSPR Contest <http://www.ham-yota.com/2125-2/>

Club Contesting

Scott, N3FJP, author of the many and varied N3FJP logging programs www.n3fjp.com/, has also written an article for the August 2016 issue of *QST* entitled "Kickstart Your Group with Club Contesting" www.n3fjp.com/help/N3FJPclubCompetitionArticle.pdf. It might provide impetus and guidance for getting members of your club to contest together.

Contesting Super Simulator

Wayne, W5XD, has released the Contesting Super Simulator, an add-on to WriteLog <https://writelog.com/downloads/contest-super-simulator>. This software enables real CW or RTTY Practice, including SO2R, by emulating the radio and station hardware and providing simulated band conditions. Search and pounce mode is even available. (Redmond Radio Club newsletter)

Word to the Wise

MUF - Maximum Usable Frequency. The highest radio frequency that can be used to communicate between two locations when the path is via reflection off the ionosphere. When typically used as a descriptor of current conditions, it is the highest frequency that communications are perceived to be taking place. When used as a predictor, it is the highest frequency at which propagation may occur on 50% of the days of the month.

Solar Topics - Where we are Headed

The World Wide Radio Operator Foundation has posted "Solar Topics - Where We're Headed" by Carl, K9LA <http://wwrof.org/webinar-archive/solar-topics-where-were-headed/>. Carl's presentation on propagation looks forward to 2020 and beyond.

Operating Tip - Use Log Check Results (LCRs)

As you are getting ready for this fall's contest season, now might be a good time to review log check reports from last year's contests to understand where you need to make improvements or practice. Some contest sponsors provide LCRs automatically, while some require that you e-mail to request them. For example, if you're looking at a Phone Sweepstakes LCR, and you note having a higher error rate with the precedence, you should plan to be extra diligent in the contest this year. Perhaps practice using bandwidth, filtering, and noise reduction capabilities of your radio to better copy that field of the exchange. If the Check field was your kryptonite last year, it could indicate an over-reliance on a pre-fill database. Remember to always, always, log what is sent.

South African Radio League National Field Day

The aim is to work as many stations as possible on all the HF amateur bands (excluding the 30, 17 and 12 m WARC bands) and in doing so, to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. A premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio.

The second leg of the SARL National Field Day will be on the air from 10:00 UTC on Saturday 10 September to 10:00 UTC on Sunday 11 September 2016. Participants may use phone, CW and digital modes on the HF amateur bands, excluding 60, 30, 17 and 12 metres. Phone, CW and digital modes on a band are considered as separate bands. A station may be worked only once per band under this rule.

How can I participate?

Class A – Field Station, Multi operator. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must comply with the requirements of a field station as defined in the general section of rules. A single licensee or trustee for the entry is responsible for the group entry. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 500 metres. All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of commercial mains power.

Class B – Field Station, Multi operator, QRP. All contacts must be made using an output power of 5 Watts or less. Other provisions are the same as Class A.

Class C – Field Station, Single Operator. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations and must comply with the requirements of a field station as defined in the general section of rules. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 500 metres. All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of commercial mains power.

Class D – Field Station, Single Operator, QRP. All contacts must be made using an output power of 5 Watts or less. Other provisions are the same as Class C.

Class E – Ultra Light Portable. Light weight self contained stations, operating QRP or low power such as RaDAR, Summits on the Air, Parks on the Air (game and nature reserves), Islands on the Air, Heritage sites, etc. The operator must carry the entire station, antenna included, to the operating site. The distance carried must not be less than 1 km.

Class F- General stations. Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power.

To encourage more individuals and groups to participate in the National Field Day events, a 6-hour section has been introduced. It need not be for one continuous 6-hour period, but once operation has commenced in the contest, off periods must be a minimum of 60 minutes. The six-hour section is applicable to Class A, B, C, D, E and F.

Equipment for Field Stations may only be set up in the 24 hours prior to the starting time of the contest. This restriction applies to antennas, masts, towers and transmitting equipment, but excludes accommodation such as a caravan, tent, etc. Once a Field Station has been established at a site, it may not move to an alternative site after the contest starts, excluding Class E stations.

Only one call sign per station is permitted. In the case of multi-operator stations using more than one transmitter, all operators shall use the same call sign. The exchange is the number of transmitters, Field Day operating class and Provincial abbreviation, an RS(T) report is optional.

Scores are based on the total number of QSO points x the power multiplier x the number of provinces worked X the class multiplier.

QSO Points - each contact with a station from one of the South African provinces counts for five points. Each DX contact counts for one point.

Power multipliers - x 6: Power 5 watts or less; x 4: Power 50 watts or less; x 2: Power 100 watts or less; x 1: Power greater than 100 watts. The power multiplier for an entry is determined by the maximum output power used by any transmitter used to complete any contact during the event.

Provinces worked multiplier - A multiplier of one for each one of the 9 South African provinces worked (regardless of band) and one extra for working any station outside of the 9 provinces i.e. DX.

EC – The Eastern Cape; FS – The Free State; GP – Gauteng; KN – KwaZulu-Natal; LP – Limpopo; MP – Mpumalanga; NC – The Northern Cape; NW – North West; WC – The Western Cape; DX – Used for all others that does not fall in the above group

Class multiplier - General stations, class multiplier of 1 and Field stations single and multi, class multiplier of 3

Miscellaneous Rules

A person may not contact for QSO credit any station from which they also participate.

A transmitter/receiver/transceiver used to contact one or more Field Day stations may not subsequently be used under any other call sign to participate in Field Day.

Batteries may be charged while in use. The batteries must be charged from a power source other than commercial mains power.

All stations for a single entry must be operated under one call sign

There is no limitation to the number of transmitters or receivers that may be deployed. The use of more than one transmitter at the same time on a single band or mode is prohibited.

Logsheets, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled "my call sign NFD," shall be sent by e-mail to zs4bfn@mweb.co.za or by post to the South African Radio League National Field Day, Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324. The closing date for log submissions is 18 September 2016. A photo(s) of the station in operation (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry – this is for Class A, B, C, D and E.

Best Communication Award

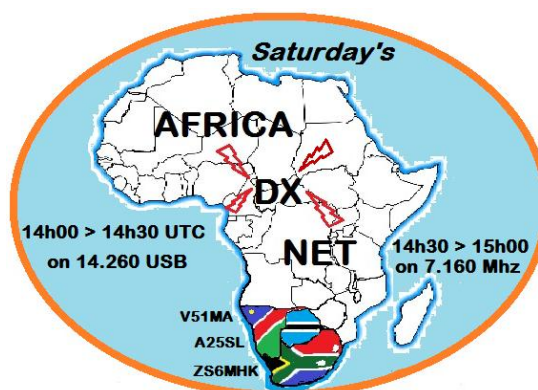
Sponsored by DX Coffee and DX University, it takes into account the Public Relations side of a DXpedition, i.e. the information (daily reports, pictures, videos, forums, propagation hints, online logs, operating advice, etc.) provided to the amateur radio community through the DXpedition website and other channels.

The 2015 Best Communication Award has been assigned to K1N (Navassa Island), with "special mentions" to TX3X (Chesterfield Islands, www.tx3x.com) and VK9WA (Willis Islands, <http://vk9wa.com>). See also www.dxcoffee.com/eng/communication-award/.

African DX

Niger, 5U. Yves, F5PRU, is now active as 5U7RK from Niger for the next few months. Activity will be limited to his free time because he is there working. Operations will be on 80-10 meters using CW and SSB. Equipment is a Kenwood TS-50 HF transceiver into a dipole antenna. QSL via his home call sign, LoTW, eQSL or ClubLog's OQRS.

Uganda, 5X. Andy, DL3YM, will once again be active as 5X8B from Entebbe starting 20 September until 1 Octo-



ber. He is there again on business. Activity will be limited on various HF bands using CW. QSL via his home call sign direct or LoTW (preferred). He does send all QSLs automatically via the Bureau.

Kenya, 5Z. The Daily DX reports that Tom, DL2RMC, will be working the next 3 years in Kenya starting 1 October and he plans to be active as 5Z4/DL2RMC. Activity will probably be on various HF bands. QSL via his home call sign.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz



Cape Verde, D4. Laszlo, HA5NT, is planning to be active as D44TUB from Sal Island (AF-086). Specific dates have not been announced yet. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 5 to 12 September 2016

MI QRP Labour Day CW Sprint

23:00 UTC 5 September to 03:00 UTC 6 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 Watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power output

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with members; 2 points per QSO with non-member W/VE stations; 4 points per QSO with non-member DX stations

Multipliers: Each state, province or country, once

per band Bonus: multiply total points by 1,25 if xmtr or receiver is homebrew; multiply total points by 1,5 if both xmtr and receiver are homebrew

Score Calculation: Total score = bonus multiplier x total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 September 2016

E-mail logs to: n8xx@arri.org

Mail logs to: Hank Greeb, N8XX, 5727 11 Mile Rd NE, Rockford, MI 49341, USA

Find rules at: www.qsl.net/miqrplclub/contest.html

ARS Spartan Sprint

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 6 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Skinny; Tubby

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and power

Work stations: Once per band

Submit logs by: 8 September 2016

E-mail logs to: spartansprint@yahoo.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://arsgrp.blogspot.com/2009/02/so-whats-spartan-sprint-and-how-do-i.html>

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 7 September

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 9 September 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 7 September and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 8 September

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op – QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 10 September 2016
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.cwops.org/cwt.html

UKEICC 80 m Contest
20:00 - 21:00 UTC 7 September
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op Connected - high, low or QRP; Single Op Unconnected - high, low or QRP;
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: 4-Character grid square
QSO Points: 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 2 if low power station; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 22:00 UTC 7 September 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: <http://logs.ukicc.com/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ukicc.com/which-contest/contest-rules/ukeicc-80-m-contests-rules

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 9 September
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 11 September 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 9 September
Mode: CW
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 11 September 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

FOC QSO Party
00:00 - 23:59 UTC 10 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, VHF
Classes: Single Op
Exchange: FOC-Member: RST, name and member no; non-Members: RST and Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: FOC-Member: Score = Total QSOs/Total Member QSOs; non-Member: Score = Total Member QSOs
Submit logs by: 24 September 2016
E-mail log summary to: kz5d@aol.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://g4foc.org/qsoparty/>

WAE SSB DX Contest
00:00 UTC 10 September to 23:59 UTC 11 September
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - high or low; Multi-Op; SWL
Max operating hours: Single Op: 36 hours, off times of at least 60 minutes Multi-Single: 48 hours
Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts
Exchange: RS and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 26 September 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/logupload/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest/waedc/en/rules/

Kulikovo Polye Contest
00:00 - 23:59 UTC 10 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 20 m Only
Classes: Single Op – low, high or super
Max power: Super: no limit; High: 1 000 W or less; Low: 100 W or less
Exchange: KP: RST and "KP"; non-KP: RST and serial no
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 25 September 2016

E-mail logs to: log@kpctest.ru
Upload log at:
http://ua9qcg.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.kpctest.ru/?pg=content/ruleen

SARL Field Day Contest
10:00 UTC 10 September to 10:00 UTC 11 September
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single-Op Field - QRP or high; Multi-Op Field - QRP or high; Ultra Light Portable; General
Max power: QRP: 5 watts; non-QRP: >5 watts
Exchange: Number of transmitters, category (see rules) and province or DX and RS(T)
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (see rules)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 18 September 2016
E-mail logs to: zs4bfn@mweb.co.za
Mail logs to: SARL Field Day Contest, PO Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324, South Africa
Find rules at:
www.sarl.org.za/Web3/Members/DoDocDownload.aspx?X=20151130131559djqp8afPgb.PDF

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
12:00 UTC 10 September to 24:00 UTC 11 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: (none)
Max operating hours: 24
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or none
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Bonus Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 18 September 2016
Post log summary at:
www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/submit-display.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/

Russian Cup Digital Contest
15:00 – 18:59 UTC 10 September and 06:00 – 09:59 UTC 11 September
Mode: RTTY, BPSK63
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band – low or high; Multi-Single
Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W
Exchange: Serial No and 4-character grid square
Work stations: Once per band per mode per session
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 21 September 2016
Upload log at: www.ua9qcg.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/86.html

Ohio State Parks on the Air
16:00 - 24:00 UTC 10 September
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op OH Park - low or high; Single Op - low or high; Multi-Single OH Park - low or high; Multi-Multi OH Park - low or high; Multi-Op - low or high
Max power: LP: 100 watts; HP: >100 watts
Exchange: OH Park: park abbreviation; OH: "Ohio"; W/VE: (state/province); DX: "DX"
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each OH park once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 24 September 2016
E-mail logs to: LOGS@ospota.org
Mail logs to: Ohio State Parks on the Air, c/o Tom Parkinson, KB8UUZ, 9992 State Route 700, Mantua, OH 44255, USA
Find rules at: www.ospota.org/ospota/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/OSPOTA-Rules2016-1Dec15.pdf

North American CW Sprint
00:00 - 04:00 UTC 11 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op – QRP, low or high
Max operating hours: 4 hours
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no, your name and your state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7) once; Each VE province once; Each North American country (except W/VE) once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 18 September 2016

E-mail logs to: (see rules, web upload preferred)
Upload log at: www.ncjweb.com/sprintlogssubmit/
Mail logs to: Boring Amateur Radio Club, 15125
Bartell Road, Boring, OR 97009, USA
Find rules at: ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf

Classic CW Exchange
13:00 UTC 11 September to 08:00 UTC 12 September and 13:00 UTC 13 September to 08:00 UTC 14 September
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Name, RST, state, province or country and rcvr/xmtr manuf/model

Work stations: Once per band per mode per rcvr/xmtr manuf/model
QSO Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: (see rules)
Score Calculation: Total score = sum(total mode QSO points x total mode mults) and Bonus Points
Submit logs by: 31 December 2016
E-mail logs to: wq8u@arrl.net
Mail logs to: WQ8U, 104 W. Queen St., Hillsborough, NC 27278, USA
Find rules at: www.classicexchange.org/sep16/sep2016cxann.html

Next Week's Contests

Classic CW Exchange, 13:00 UTC 11 September to 08:00 UTC 12 September and 13:00 UTC 13 September to 08:00 UTC 14 September
Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 14 September
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 September and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 15 September
RSGB 80 m Club Sprint, SSB, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 September
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 16 September
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 16 September
AGB NEMIGA Contest, 21:00 - 24:00 UTC 16 September
All Africa International DX Contest, 12:00 UTC 17 September to 12:00 UTC 18 September
Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW, 12:00 UTC 17 September to 12:00 UTC 18 September
New Hampshire QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 17 September to 04:00 UTC 18 September and 16:00 - 22:00 UTC 18 September
New Jersey QSO Party, 16:00 UTC 17 September to 03:59 UTC 18 September and 14:00 - 20:00 UTC 18 September
Washington State Salmon Run, 16:00 UTC 17 September to 07:00 UTC 18 September and 16:00 - 24:00 UTC 18 September
QRP Afield, 16:00 - 22:00 UTC 17 September
Feld Hell Sprint, 18:00 - 19:59 UTC 17 September
North American RTTY Sprint, 00:00 - 04:00 UTC 18 September
BARTG Sprint 75, 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 18 September
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 19 September

VHF Happenings

Mauritius, 3B8 EME

Bernie, ZS4TX, will be active as 3B8TX from the northwest coast of Mauritius Island (AF-049) between 16 and 19 September. He reports to DXNews.com, "Mauritius is not rare in Europe on 6 m (WW Loc LG89sx). My operation will favour NA/SA moonrise and ZL/VK moonset. Please send me an E-mail for any special time/skeds that may not be covered in the proposed periods. I will also be running a beacon during the daytime looking for possible Tropo openings towards Africa." His equipment is an IC-7100 and 6M8GJ. QSL via LoTW or direct to his home call sign.

Latest Aussie balloon takes to the skies

The latest Australian pico balloon from Melbourne lifted off early Saturday August 27 to around Coffs Harbour on the New South Wales coast, before New Zealand, then headed for South America.

Andy, VK3YT, launched the party-type helium balloon PS-68 as the latest in his series inviting it to be tracked by enthusiastic followers. The balloon has a solar powered 10 milliwatt transmitter on two-metres Automatic Packet Reporting System and Olivia Reed-Solomon Identification or RSID on 70 centimetres. It sends data on the location, speed, direction, altitude, temperature and battery condition.

Regular trackers in VK3, VK2, VK1 and ZL have so far been reporting on it. Tony, VK2QW, followed the balloon up the Australian coast and then off to New Zealand where it was picked up by Bob, ZL1RS, an avid tracker of the high-altitude balloons. Bob noted it dip about 6 000 metres in altitude while off New Zealand on Monday, presumably during adverse weather, but then regained height as it turned to float in a southerly direction. That path was then observed by a few who decoded the data as it tracked between the North and South Island of New Zealand and then abruptly turning north coming over land at Herbertville. Then it turned back on its path and headed east over the South Pacific on Tuesday, albeit now out of range is believed to be still floating towards South America.

5 GHz to 10 GHz Lunar Transponder Mission

AMSAT-NA plan 5 GHz to 10 GHz transponders on a satellite expected to launch into a lunar orbit in Sept 2018. Heimdallr is a 3 axis stabilized 6U CubeSat with a mass of approximately 8 kg. It will have a Cold Gas Thruster for inertia dump and a star tracker for navigation. Deployable, gimbed solar panels will produce up to 100 watts of DC power, electric propulsion will be used to achieve lunar orbit. There will be a combination of omni and directional patch antennas on one side of spacecraft.

The first part of mission is to provide Telemetry, Tracking and Command (TT&C) to obtain lunar orbit. The second part is to perform the data downlink experiment while the final part is to provide a two-way regenerative repeater and analogue repeater in lunar orbit for lifetime of satellite.

Proposing these downlinks - Omni transponder: 10,451 GHz +/- 0,5 MHz; Directional transponder: 10,4575 GHz. +/- 3,5 MHz and Analogue transponder: 10,4665 GHz. +/- 2,0 MHz.

For the first part of the mission (TT&C) using 300 bps BPSK ½ rate viterbi Ranging 1,5 Mbps BPSK DSSS. For the second part of mission 4,5 Mbps QPSK ½ rate DVB-S2. For the final part of mission 25 kbps BPSK 1/5 rate DVB-S2.

Proposing these Uplinks - Omni transponder: 5,651 GHz +/- 0,5 MHz; Directional transponder: 5,6575 GHz, +/- 3,5 MHz and Analogue transponder: 5,665 GHz, +/- 2 MHz

A link budget is available at

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B3u-mSOWBMISynZyZGJpeThKeU0&usp=sharing>

It is anticipated that a 1 or 2 metre dish will be required using the AMSAT designed ground station equipment.

Source IARU Satellite Frequency Coordination Status pages www.amsat.org.uk/iaru/

ARRL September VHF Contest

18:00 UTC 10 September to 03:00 UTC 12 September

Mode: All

Bands: 50 MHz and up

Classes: Single Op All Band – low or high

Single Op Portable; Single Op 3-Band; Single Op FM; Rover; Limited Rover; Unlimited Rover; Unlimited Multi-Op; Limited Multi-Op

Exchange: 4-character grid square

Work stations: Once per band per grid square

QSO Points: 1 point per 50- or 144-MHz QSO; 2 points per 222- or 432-MHz QSO; 3 points per 906- or 1 296-MHz QSO; 4 points per 2,3 GHz (or higher) QSO

Multipliers: Each grid square once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 12 October 2016

E-mail logs to: SeptemberVHF@arrl.org

Upload log at: contest-log-submission.arrl.org

Web-to-Cabrillo form: http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/arrlvhfsep_cab3.php

Mail logs to: September VHF, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf>

ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest – 06:00 local 17 September to 24:00 local 18 September
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest - 10:00 UTC 17 September to 10:00 UTC 18 September
144 MHz Fall Sprint - 19:00 local – 23:00 local 19 September

[Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter](#)

Abbreviations

AAA – All Africa Award	MOTA – Mills on the Air
ADL - Austrian District Locator	NPOTA – National Parks on the Air
ANZAC - Australian and New Zealand Army Corps	OQRS - Online QSL Request System
AOTA – Airfields on the Air	RDA - Russian District Award
ARLHS - Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society	ROTA – Railways on the Air
BOTA – Beaches on the Air	RSGB – Radio Society of Great Britain
CSHOTA – Castles and Stately Homes on the Air	SAGHOTA – Sheds, Allotments and Green Houses on the Air
DCI - Diplomi dei Castelli d'Italia	SOTA – Summits on the Air
DDFM - Diplome des Departements Francais de la Metropole	WAB - Worked All Britain
GIOTA - Greek Islands on the Air	WAC – Worked all Continents
IIA - Italian Island Awards	WAZS – Worked all ZS
ILLW – International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend	WCA - World Castles Award
IMW – International Museum Weekend	WIA - Wireless Institute of Australia
IOTA - Islands on the Air	WLOTA - World Lighthouse on the Air Award
JOTA – Jamboree on the Air	WOTA – Wainwrights on the Air
JOTI – Jamboree on the Internet	WRTC - World Radiosport Team Championship
LoTW - Logbook of the World	WWFF – World Wide Fauna and Flora
MIA - Mediterranean Sea Island Award	YOTA – Youngsters on the Air
	ZS WAGS - Worked all South African Grid Squares